

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of the**  
**Edina Heritage Preservation Board**  
**Edina City Hall – Community Room**  
**Tuesday, August 11, 2015**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**I.     CALL TO ORDER           7:00 P.M.**

**II.    ROLL CALL**

Answering roll call was Chair Weber and Members, Moore, McLellan, Sussman, Christiaansen, O'Brien, Birdman, Kelly, and Student Member Druckman. Absent were members Pearson, Sussman, and Student Member Otness. Staff present was Senior Planner, Joyce Repya.

**III.   APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

Member Birdman moved to approve the meeting agenda. Member McLellan seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carried.

**IV.    APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES   July 14, 2015**

Member Kelly moved approval of the minutes from the July 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Member McLellan seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carried.

**V.     COMMUNITY COMMENT - None**

**VI.    REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS - None**

**VII.   OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. 2015 Work Plan Update &**

**B. 2016 Work Plan Preparation :**

The board reviewed the 2015 work plan to evaluate the tasks that have been accomplished, those yet to be accomplished in 2015, as well as the tasks that should be continued to the 2016 work plan.

The Seven 2015 initiatives were classified as follows:

Completed:

- Designate 6901 Dakota Trail and Edina Heritage Landmark property
- Establish a working group to explore educational opportunities linked to Edina's heritage preservation program during preservation month. (Work will commence September 2015)
- Add to resources publically available on topics such as architecture and technical advice - raising community awareness through education. (An on-going initiative.)

1. CCD Walking Tour created by student member Peter Otness added to CCD web page and Edina Historical Society's resources.
2. Member Peter Sussman led a tour of the Adath Yeshurun Cemetery identifying its significance to the history of Edina. By popular demand, a 2<sup>nd</sup> tour is scheduled for Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.
3. Member Ryan Weber wrote a 4-part series entitled "Is Demolition Allowed in the Country Club District?" for the city's Advisory Blog to educate the public on how the District's plan of treatment is managed by the HPB.

To be completed in 2015:

- Update Edina Historic Context Study: Adding most recent data from the Country Club District, Morningside Bungalow Study, and Suburban Development Study. To be completed this Fall by Consultant Robert Vogel without the need for additional funding.
- Designate 6909 Hillcrest Lane, the Moore House an Edina Heritage Landmark District (EHLD) property. To be completed by year end 2015.

Carry over to 2016:

- Designate the Wooddale Bridge (on Wooddale Avenue in front of St. Stephens Church) an Edina Heritage Landmark District (EHLD) property. We have been waiting for MnDOT to complete a National Register of Historic Places application underway as part of their management plan for all bridges in their jurisdiction. Apparently, MnDOT's project has stalled, thus the HPB has decided to move forward with this proposed local designation in 2016.
- Educational Opportunities subcommittee to complete their work by February 2016, for Preservation Month, May 2016.
- Explore the History of Your Home subcommittee - Encourage public engagement to record the history of their homes using an example of the MNSHPO's Placeography.org site.

A discussion ensued amongst the HPB with the Explore the History of Your Home subcommittee providing an update for new HPB members on the original goal of providing a means by which the public could download interesting photos, articles, and facts about their homes into a Wikipedia type site. Currently the Minnesota Historical Society provides the site "Placeography.org" offering such a service. Member Birdman explained the impetus of the subcommittee was to move beyond a focus on the Country Club District and Morningside; to provide an opportunity for any interested property owner to engage in the historic documentation of their own property.

Committee members observed that they had not met for a while, but will re-engage to provide information for the board in 2016.

New 2016 initiatives:

The board discussed the following proposed initiatives to add to the 2016 work plan:

- Create an Edina historical fact sheet to be included in the “Welcome Packet” provided for new property owners.
- Add properties to the list of those designated as eligible for Edina Heritage Landmark nomination.
- Propose the City Council add at least one property to the list of properties identified as Edina Heritage Landmarks.

The Board also brainstormed about possible projects for the future including the creation of an app where one could explore Edina, finding the “Top 20 Significant Sites in the City”. They agreed that would be a good project for a subcommittee.

**C. July 21<sup>st</sup> Adath Yeshurun Tour - Feedback**

Board members reflected on the July 21<sup>st</sup> tour of the Adath Yeshurun Cemetery, commenting that Member Sussman did an excellent job of conducting the tour - conveying very interesting information to a large group very effectively. Planner Repya advised the board that the tour was so well received, and since there were people who were unable to attend the July tour, a second tour of the cemetery will again be led by Member Sussman on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. The board agreed that tours such as this are a great way to get the public engaged in learning about the city’s history.

**VIII. CORRESPONDENCE & PETITIONS - None**

**IX. CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**Member Moore reported on the following upcoming opportunities:**

- The Edina Historical Society’s Annual Historic House Tour will take place on September 13, 2015 and will include three homes designed by renowned architect, John Howe (a draftsman under Frank Lloyd Wright). Two of the homes are in Edina and a third is located in Bloomington.
- The Minnesota Historical Society’s new exhibit entitled “Suburbia” will open in October and run through March, 2016. Focusing on post World War II, the exhibit will include artifacts from Southdale which they borrowed from the Edina Historical Society.

**X. STAFF COMMENTS**

**A. Oskam House, 6901 Dakota Trail - Received Landmark Designation**

Planner Repya reported that on August 5<sup>th</sup> the City Council held the public hearing to add the Edina Heritage Landmark District (EHL D) overlay zoning designation to the Oskam House. The

proposal was very well received and passed unanimously. Ms. Repya added that Mrs. Oskam was very pleased with the outcome, and appreciated the work of the HPB, Staff and Consultant Vogel.

**B. September 1, 2015 Work Session with City Council Rescheduled to December 15, 2015**

Planner Repya alerted the board that the annual work session with the City Council was scheduled for Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m., however has been rescheduled to Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> which was the date that worked best for the HPB membership.

**C. Student Member Joe Druckman' s last meeting**

Planner Repya reported that this would be student member Joe Druckman' s last meeting, and she wanted to convey her pleasure in working with him, noting that his willingness to be engaged with the work of the board provided a lot of value. The board shared Ms. Repya's sentiments and thanked Joe for his service, wishing him the best as he enters Carlton College this fall. Student Member Druckman expressed his pleasure serving on the board, pointing out that prior to his experiences with the HPB, Edina was just a town he lived in, however now he really feels as though he belongs.

**XI.      NEXT MEETING DATE                      September 8, 2015**

**XII.      ADJOURNMENT**

Member McLellan moved for adjournment at 8:00 p.m. Member Birdman seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carried.

**Respectfully submitted,**  
*Joyce Repya*